

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENOA 00100 101612Z
ACTION EUR-12

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R 101200Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL GENOA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1897
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL FLORENCE
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL PALERMO
AMCONSUL TRIESTE
AMCONSUL TURIN

UNCLAS GENOA 0100

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJ: PAJETTA TRIES TO REASSURE GENOA COMMUNISTS ON
STUDENT HOSTILITY TOWARD PCI

1. SURPRISED AND EMBARRASSED BY LAMA'S RECENT FIASCO AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ROME, WHERE ENRAGED STUDENTS PRACTICALLY CHASED THE CGIL CHIEF OFF THE CAMPUS, THE COMMUNISTS HAVE EMBARKED IN A SERIES OF SYMPOSIA DESIGNED TO EXPLAIN THE UNPRECEDENTED MANIFESTATIONS OF YOUTH HOSTILITY TOWARD THE PCI. GENOA HOSTED ONE SUCH SYMPOSIUM ON MARCH 7 AT THE UNIVERSALE CINEMA BEFORE A FULLHOUSE AUDIENCE OF MOSTLY YOUNG COMMUNISTS. THE CENTERPIECE OF THE MEETING WAS A PERORATION BY NONE OTHER THAN GIAN CARLO PAJETTA, THE PARTY'S PRESTIGIOUS DOCTRINAL FLAMETHROWER.

2. FROM AVAILABLE MEAGER PRESS ACCOUNTS IN THE LOCAL PAPERS, PAJETTA AND LESSER LUMINARIES APPARENTLY WERE PUT ON THE DEFENSIVE BY A SKEPTICAL AND UNEASY AUDIENCE. SYMPTOMATIC OF THE MOOD WAS A COMPLAINT BY MASSIMO D'ALEMA, THE PCI NATIONAL YOUTH
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FEDERATION SECRETARY, WHO ALLEGEDLY BERATED UNIDENTIFIED QUOTE POLITICAL FORCES UNQUOTE FOR THE QUOTE PLEASURE UNQUOTE THEY DERIVED FROM QUOTE THE DIFFICULTIES THAT OUR PARTY ENCOUNTERS IN THIS OPEN DIALOGUE (CONFRONTO) WITH YOUTH UNQUOTE . BOTH PAJETTA AND D'ALEMA REPORTEDLY TIED STUDENT REVOLT ALMOST SOLELY TO THE COUNTRY'S QUOTE GENERAL CRISIS UNQUOTE WHICH MAKES IT DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, FOR MANY STUDENTS TO FIND

SUITABLE JOBS.

3. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, QUOTE ALMOST ALL UNQUOTE THE AUDIENCE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS REFLECTED QUOTE THE MALAISE OF THE RANK-AND-FILE UNQUOTE OVER THE QUOTE ABSTENTIONIST POLICY OF THE PCI VIS-A-VIS THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT UNQUOTE. PAJETTA TRIED TO ASSUAGE THIS CONCERN BY STRONGLY ATTACKING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, THE GOVERNMENT, AND QUOTE EVEN THE SOCIALISTS UNQUOTE. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, HE DEFENDED THE PARTY S ABSTENTIONIST POLICY AS THE QUOTE ONLY VALID AND POSSIBLE COURSE UNQUOTE.

COMMENT. AS WE HAVE INDICATED IN RECENT COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE EMBASSY, THERE ARE INCREASING SIGNS HERABOUTS THAT THE PCI IS BEGINNING TO SMART FROM ITS APPARENT INABILITY QUOTE TO DELIVER UNQUOTE ON SOCIAL ISSUES AND PROBLEMS -- SUCH AS YOUTH AND LABOR -- WHERE THE PARTY HAS ALWAYS BEEN PRESUMED TO BE MOST PROFICIENT AND INFLUENTIAL. THE GENOA SYMPOSIUM ON STUDENT REVOLT (AND AUDIENCE REACTION THERETO) IS THE LATEST AND MOST REVEALING INDICATION OF PCI CONCERN OVER ITS TARNISHING IMAGE.DI SCIULLO

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